

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1, 3 and 5-7 were allowed.

At the same time, claims 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the patent to Ring.

The Examiner's indication of the allowance of claims 1, 3, and 5-7 has been gratefully acknowledged. In connection with this indication, these claims have been retained as they were.

After carefully considering the Examiner's grounds for the rejection of claims 9 and 10 and discussing the claims with the Examiner in a telephonic conference, claims 9 and 10 have been amended to define that the storage medium and/or device actually are programmed to carry out the method steps.

It is believed that claims 9 and 10 should also be considered as being allowable.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is
most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 27233